Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 IO-14 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /191 W ------ 128755

P R 201627Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5910 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL DUBLIN 1130

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, ENRG, OPEC, OECD

SUBJECT: FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT BY OIL PRODUCING NATIONS

REF: STATE 178868

1. IN COURSE OF GENERAL CONVERSATION ON ECONOMIC MATTERS, ECONOFF RAISED WITH CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (IDA) QUESTION OF DIRECT INVESTMENT BY OIL PRODUCERS IN IRISH ECONOMY. INITIAL REACTION WAS POSITIVE. INASMUCH AS GOI POLICY, AS INTERPRETED AND APPLIED BY IDA, IS TO ENCOURAGE INVEST-MENT IN IRISH INDUSTRY PARTICULARLY THOSE SECTORS CREATING EMPLOYMENT AND EXPORTS. IN GENERAL IRISH ARE NOT WORRIED -- AT LEAST IN THIS STAGE OF THEIR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT -- ABOUT FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF INDUSTRY, EXCEPT THAT (A) THEY WOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT FOREIGN CONTROL OF EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES AND (B) THERE WOULD BE POLITICAL RESISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES DEEMED COMPETIT-IVE WITH OR HARMFUL TO LOCAL STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES AND ENTRENCH-ED SECTORS SUCH AS INSURANCE UNDERWRITING AND TO SOME EXTENT COMMERCIAL BANKING. THUS, GOI WOULD WELCOME DIRECT INVESTMENT BY OIL PRODUCERS, PROVIDED THAT INVESTMENT WAS DIRECTED INTO CONFIDENTIAL

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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IRISH REGARD AS DESIRABLE. GOI IS NOT

INTERESTED IN MONEY PER SE, AND WOULD THEREFORE NOT BE INTERESTED IN PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT.

2. IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE DISCUSSION THAT GOI WOULD NOT BE CONCERNED ABOUT ANY CHANGE IN USG POLICY ON FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN US. IRISH DO NOT IMMEDIATELY PERCEIVE HOW SUCH AN ALTERATION OF USG POLICY WOULD AFFECT -- EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY -- THE IRISH ECONOMY, AND IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THEY WOULD TAKE PARTICULAR NOTE OF ANY SUCH CHANGE.

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EINV, ENRG, US, OPEC, OECD

To: STATE

Type: TE

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